<u>REMARKS/ARGUMENTS</u>

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 4-8 are amended by the present amendment. Claim amendments and find support in the application as originally filed. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Bayer et al.</u> (U.S. Pat. No. 6,311,190, herein "<u>Bayer</u>") in view of <u>Kalpio et al.</u> (U.S. Pat. No. 6,343,323, herein "<u>Kalpio</u>" in view of <u>Shrader et al.</u> (U.S. Pat. No. 6,374,359, herein "<u>Shrader</u>"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claim 4 is directed to an information providing method that includes, in part, recording, receiving, selecting, generating and transmitting steps. A third receiving step includes receiving, at a key server, user terminal identification from a user terminal used by a user. A generating step includes generating a key based on the user terminal identification to manage downloaded content from the content server. A second transmission step includes transmitting, from the key server, the key and the target destination of said contents server which enables the user terminal used by said user to download contents from said contents server. Independent Claims 1 and 5-8 include similar features.

In a non-limiting example, Applicants' Fig. 1 shows an information providing system having a registration apparatus 3 that receives from the user terminal 1 a) a request for transmission of the user registration form data and b) user terminal identification data specifying said user terminal as an argument of a target destination of the registration server said attributes input by said user. The registration apparatus 3 selects the registration form data based on the attributes received by said first receiving step. The user registration form data, as illustrated in Figs. 8 and 9, is transmitted and recorded in the user terminal 1. The

registration server 3 receives a user profile based on what is input on the form and records the

profile data and the terminal identification data in the user terminal 1. The registration

apparatus 3 then sends a program to the user terminal 1 for accessing a key server 5. The key

server 5 receives the user terminal identification and generates a key based on the user

terminal identification. Once this is accomplished, the target destination of the contents server

(4-1 through 4-4), in the form of a URL, back to the user terminal 1 allowing the user to

download content. Additionally, the key server sends a key based on the user terminal

identification data specifying of the user terminal used by the user, allowing the user to

manage the downloaded content. Claims 6-8 include similar features but directed to a user

terminal.

Turning now to the rejection of Claims 1-8 in the outstanding Office Action,

Applicants respectfully traverses the §103(a) rejection of Claims 1-8 based on Bayer, Kalpio

and Shrader for the following reasons.

Amended Claim 1 recites, in part,

> second recording means for recording said user profile
> data in association with said user terminal identification
> specifying said user terminal used by said user;
> second transmitting means for transmitting a program
> for access to a key server; and
> a key server and content server, the key server
> comprising
> third receiving means for receiving the user terminal
> identification from the user terminal

Independent Claims 4-8 recite similar features.

Bayer describes a system in which a registration server provides a questionnaire form

in an appropriate language to the user.

Kalpio describes a proxy server receiving a user ID from a client and transmitting the

HTTP data to the client. Further, in Kalpio the client receives content from a WWW server

via a proxy server.

Shrader describes client-server web-based transaction processing and authentication of user for accessing applications running on a web server.

However, Bayer, Kalpio and Shrader considered individually or in any proper combination do not describe or suggest a second transmitting means for transmitting a program for access to a key server.

In other words, the Bayer, Kalpio and Shrader references do not describe or suggest that a user terminal that would like to download content from a content server, accesses a registration apparatus for registering a user profile and for receiving a program to access a key server for receiving a key to manage a content. These procedures are not disclosed in the above noted references.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 and consequently independent Claims 4-8 patentably distinguish over Bayer, Kalpio and Shrader considered alone or together in any proper combination.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent Claims 1 and 4-8, and claims depending therefrom, are allowable.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.
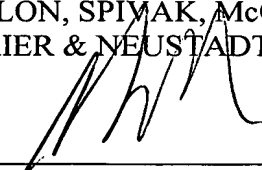
Respectfully submitted,

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